



State of Wisconsin
Governor Scott Walker

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Ben Brancel, Secretary

DATE: February 5, 2013

TO: Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

FROM: Ben Brancel, Secretary *for BB*
Steve Ingham, Administrator, Division of Food Safety *Steve Ingham*

SUBJECT: Division of Food Safety Update

PRESENTED BY: Steve Ingham, Administrator

RECOMMENDATION: This is for informational purposes only. No Board action is required.

SUMMARY / BACKGROUND:

Since the last Division of Food Safety update was provided to the Board in June, 2012, significant progress has been made in achieving major goals in the division's strategic plan. The Bureau of Food Safety and Inspection is moving forward in fully implementing FDA's Manufacture Food Regulatory Program Standards (MFRPS). The Food Bureau won a multi-year FDA grant to support MFRPS implementation activities, had a successful MFRPS program audit report from FDA, and obtained another FDA grant which will pay to provide our field inspection staff with ruggedized portable computers for use during inspections.

Thanks in large part to new budget funds made available for hiring additional personnel, the Bureau of Meat Safety and Inspection has been able to consistently meet United States Department of Agriculture – Food Safety and Inspection Service (USDA-FSIS) expectations for providing daily oversight in licensed meat establishments. Secretary Brancel has signed the agreement to formally launch the Cooperative Interstate Shipment (CIS) program which will allow selected state-inspected meat and poultry establishments to ship their products to other states. The Meat Bureau is working with the first selected establishments and the Des Moines District Office of USDA-FSIS schedule plant visits which will lead to the first product shipments under the CIS program.

The FDA Pasteurized Milk Ordinance (PMO), as amended every two years following the National Conference on Interstate Milk Shipments (NCIMS), guides the operation of the Grade "A" program for milk and milk products in interstate commerce. State laws and regulations require the Division of Food Safety to operate a dairy program that is in substantial compliance with the PMO. The next NCIMS meeting will be held in April and will likely feature debate on a resolution to adopt the European Union limits for Somatic Cell Count in Grade "A" milk.

In 2013, the Division will focus on training of new employees, continuing the MFRPS program, successfully supporting the interstate shipment of state-inspected meat and poultry products by selected establishments, and building even stronger relationships with our federal food safety partners.

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